Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 DOE-15 SOE-02 EB-08 TRSE-00

HA-05 AID-05 /135 W

-----079604 230205Z/62

R 221640Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 323

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY GABERONE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

CONFIDENTIAL NIAMEY 2315

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, EAID, EFIN, XA, XF, NG

SUBJECT: AFRO/ARAB MINISTERIAL MEETING IN NIAMEY

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1. DURING MAY 19 MEETING ON SUBJECT OF C-130S (REPORTED SEPTEL) FOREIGN MINISTER DJERMAKOYE VOLUNTEERED THAT GON WOULD HOST AN AFRO/ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING JUNE 5-7. HE WILL LEAVE FOR TRIPOLI IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS FOR THE CHAD TALKS. HE DESCRIBED THE PARTICIPANTS IN TERMS OF OIL AND THE RISON D'ETRE FOR THE NIAMEY STUS AS URANIUM, TWENTY-FOUR

PARTICIPANTS WITH EVEN DIVISION AMONG AFRICANS
AND ARABS WILL INCLUDE: ALGERIA, LIBYA, THE EMIRATES,
SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR, PLO, TUNISIA, MOROCCO, GABON
CAMEROON, GHANA, MAURITANIA, TOGO, BOTSWANA, SIERRA LEONE,
MOZAMBIQUE AND EGYPT. THE GROUP ORDER WAS DESIGNATED
AT THE AFRO/ARAB SUMMIT AS A COMMITTEE TO FURTHER
THE PURSUIT OF AFRO/ARAB COOPERATION AND ECONOMIC ISSUES.
NIGERIA IS PERHAPS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT OMISSION FROM THIS
GROUPING.

- 2. WHEN I COMMENTED THAT NIAMEY WAS BECOMING A CONVENTION CENTER, THE FOREIGN MINISTER AGREED IN ALL SERIOUSNESS, STATING THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE INTERESTED THAT A SEMINAR WITH THE THEME OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD WILL BE HELD HERE MAY 30 TO JUNE 3. UNIVERSITIES AND ISLAMIC OFFICIALDOM WILL PROVIDE THE MAJORITY OF THE PARTICIPANTS.
- 3. DJERMAKOYE ADDED THAT NIGER HOPED TO BUILD A HOTEL/CONFERENCE COMPLED THIS YEAR ON THE RIVER BANK NEAR THE JOHN F. KENNEDY BRIDGE. PLANS CALL FOR A 250 ROOM HOTEL AND A 3,000 SEAT AUDITORIUM. THE NIGER GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO BOLSTER ITS SELF-IMAGE AS A BRIDGE ACROSS THE GEOGRAPHIC, POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS SAHEL.JAMES

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Subject: AFRO/ARAB MINISTERIAL MEETING IN NIAMEY CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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